GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:704
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002
LICENCES TO TOBACCO GROWERS
TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Tobacco Board has issued licences to the residents of Andhra Pradesh to grow tobacco in Rayagada district of Orissa having no landed property in that district;

(b) if so, the number of growers to whom licences have been issued;

(c) whether several licences have been issued in various names to a single family;

(d) if so, the facts in this regard;

(e) whether licences have been issued to the genuine farmers of Rayagada district to grow tobacco for 2002-2003;

(f) if so, to how many farmers and the area of land for which licences have been issued;

(g) whether action has been taken to open tobacco auction platform at Rayagada from 2003 i.e. from the current crop harvest in order to facilitate the farmers to avail the nearest auction platform;

(h) whether decision has also been taken to take a member of Tobacco Board from Rayagada to represent tobacco growers of Orissa; and

(i) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) & (b) : The Tobacco Board registers growers of Flue Cured Virginia tobacco in accordance with the Tobacco Board Act and the rules made thereunder. The Act and Rules do not require a grower to own landed property for registration. In 2002-03 crop season 98 growers have been registered in Rayagada district.

(c) & (d) : Registration is granted to growers on individual basis.

(e) & (f) : During 2002-03, crop season registration for cultivation of Virginia tobacco has been granted to 98 growers on 228 hectares of land in accordance with the laid down criteria.

(g) : No, Sir.

(h) : No, Sir.

(i) : Does not arise.